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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S) Helm, et al. GROUP ART UNIT: 2663
APPLN. NO.: 09/728,359 EXAMINER: Mehra, Inder P.
FILED: 12/01/00
TITLE: METHODS FOR ACHIEVING RELIABLE JOINS IN A MULTICAST
IP NETWORK

Certificate of Mailing

Date of deposit: November 13, 2002

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date indicated above, as first-class mail, with sufficient postage attached thereto, in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C.

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Signature of Person Mailing Paper

Sheila Mannerino
Printed Name of Person Mailing Paper

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Technology Center 2600

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated 08/13/02, Paper No. 4, and Examiner's comments with regard thereto, please enter the following amendments in the above-entitled application, without prejudice or disclaimer.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claims 7-8 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Amend the claims as follows:

2. (Twice Amended) A method comprising:

at a first host:

receiving indicia that a second host is actively sourcing one or more packets addressed to a multicast group address;

issuing a join command to the one or more network devices in an attempt to join the multicast group address;